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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/517,727	12/10/2004	George Thompson	P9450-0305	6044

7590 04/08/2008  
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EXAMINER
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THOMPSON, GREGORY D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2835

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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04/08/2008

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/517,727	<b>Applicant(s)</b> THOMPSON, GEORGE	
	<b>Examiner</b> Gregory D. Thompson	<b>Art Unit</b> 2835	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 1/14/08.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                     | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

Art Unit: 2835

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-6, 8-13,15-18,20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Langdon et al (4,977,482).

Langdon teaches a power assembly system in Figs. 5-9, comprising: a collar unit 16 with a sleeve 96; and an internal power unit 114 (AC to DC converter), wherein the internal power unit 114 is coupled (broad term) to the collar unit 16. A power assembly couple, comprising: the power assembly system (the collar unit 16 and power unit 114) and a meter base assembly composed of a meter 12 and meter base (broad term) having contacts 28, 30, wherein the meter base assembly is coupled (broad term) to the power assembly system to form the power assembly couple. The meter base assembly is located outdoors. The meter base assembly measures metered electricity. The collar unit 16 protects the internal power unit 114 from environmental conditions (broad term). The couple further comprises an external electronic component (broad term) the optical network interface, col.7, lines 28-36 at the end of the male plug 110 via element (wire) 108 in Fig. 8. Regarding claims 5 and 17, col. 1, lines 55-57 refer to residential location or house sites. The broad method limitations would be fully met by the structure discussed above.

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1,7,11 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Langdon et al (4,977,482).

Langdon teaches the power assembly as discussed above. Langdon does not teach that the collar unit 16 is ejection molded. However, it is considered obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the well-known process of ejection molding the unit 16 out of the well-known material of plastic for example to provide excellent protection from environmental conditions to provide long life to the unit 16.

5. Claims 11-12 and 14 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Langdon et al (4,977,482).

Langdon teaches the broad method limitations from the structure discussed above. Langdon does not teach that the component (optical network interface) has a circuit board. However, it is considered obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a well-known circuit board with components thereon in the interface to provide the desired mounting of the components an electrical connection between the components of the interface to provide the desired electrical action.

6. Applicant's arguments filed 1/14/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The internal power unit 114 (housing 116) is internal to the collar unit 16 (broad term) when the unit 114 is inserted into the sleeve 96 of the collar unit 16 as

seen in Figs. 5-9. The voltage converting unit 122 which is in (internal to unit 114) unit 114 (housing 116) clearly converts AC to DC power when the unit 114 (122) is internally inserted into the sleeve 96 of the collar unit 16. The unit 114(116) converts AC to DC to supply power to an external device such as an optical network interface. Claims 1 and 11 only broadly claim a power system having a collar unit and an internal power unit that converts AC to DC power coupled (broad term) the collar unit. Langdon clearly meets the broad stated claim limitations.

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory D. Thompson whose telephone number is (571) 272-2045. The examiner can normally be reached on varying schedule.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jayprakash Gandhi can be reached on (571) 272- 3740. The fax phone

Art Unit: 2835

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Gregory D Thompson/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2835

Gregory D Thompson  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2835